

Appln No. 10/773,998
Amdt date November 10, 2006
Reply to Office action of August 14, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Currently claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13-16, 18-21, 23 and 24 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 7-9, 13, 16 and 18-20 have been amended.

The drawings have been rejected as failing to show a direct connection between the cam and the deadbolt. The claims have been amended to remove the "directly" claim language, however, the specification on page 7, line 16, clearly indicates that the cam may be attached directly to the deadbolt or indirectly through a link or links. It is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary in the art would understand this claim language.

Claims 1, 2, 5-11, 13-16, 18-21, 23 and 24 have been rejected as indefinite. As previously stated the objected to claim language "directly" has been removed from the claims. In addition, 7 and 13 have been amended for the noted informalities.

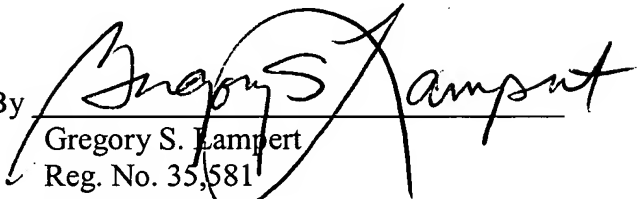
Claims 1, 2 6 and 14 have been rejected as allegedly obvious over Davis in view of Allen. It is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are not obvious in light of these references. The claims have been amended to require the second lock actuating means having a T-key which engages the slot in the cam to move the deadbolt between the lock and unlocked position. It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited reference disclose this feature in combination with the other recited elements, namely a deadbolt positioned within a guide and first and second lock actuating means.

There is no teaching or suggestion from the references which would suggest such a combination, and it is clear from the cited combination of references, namely Davis, Allen, Aston and LaConte that the Examiner is rejecting the claims through impermissible hindsight.

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It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and, accordingly, early indication thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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GSL/vsj

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